BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application)	Application No. C-3204
of Sprint Communications, L.P.,)	
Overland Park, Kansas, seeking)	
approval of an amendment to its)	
certificate of public)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER
convenience and necessity to)	
provide local exchange)	
telecommunications service in)	
all exchanges within the State)	
of Nebraska in which Sprint is)	Entered: August 23, 2004
not currently certificated.)	

BY THE HEARING OFFICER:

On August 20, 2004, the Commission held a prehearing conference in the above-captioned matter. The following parties appeared through their respective legal counsel: Sprint Communications, L.P.; Southeast Nebraska Telephone Company; Benkelman Telephone Company; Arapahoe Telephone Company; Cozad Telephone Company; Curtis Telephone Company; Diller Telephone Company; Glenwood Telephone Membership Corporation; Keystone-Arthur Telephone Company; Plainview Telephone Company; Wauneta Telephone Company; Hartman Telephone Company; Mainstay Communications. This prehearing conference order records the actions taken at the conference.

- 1. Schedule: The following schedule shall be established and shall govern the Commission's consideration of this docket:
 - a. Parties shall have until **September 3, 2004,** to prepare and serve on the other parties all discovery. Discovery should be limited in scope and time. All parties including the Commission staff are jointly limited to 25 interrogatories and/or production requests.
 - b. Any objections or motions regarding discovery requests shall be filed with the Commission no later than September 10, 2004. Oral Argument shall be held regarding these objections or motions should it be necessary on September 13, 2004, at 11:00 a.m. at the Commission Hearing Room. A telephone conference bridge will be made available prior to that date.
 - c. All discovery responses are due and shall be served by **September 17, 2004**.

- d. Sprint shall have to and including October 1, 2004, to serve on all parties and to file with the Commission copies of its pre-filed testimony and exhibits.
- e. All other parties shall have to and including October 15, 2004, to serve on all parties and to file with the Commission pre-filed testimony and exhibits.
- f. The hearing on this matter will be held on **November 4, 2004,** at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Hearing Room.
- 2. Hearing Procedure: The hearing will be held in the traditional format. Witnesses will be sworn-in.
 - a. The applicant's case will be presented first. Formal intervenors may cross-examine applicant's witnesses. Commissioners and Commission counsel may also elicit testimony.
 - b. Then, the Commission will permit the testimony of any formal or informal intervenors filing prefiled testimony within the time period prescribed above.
 - c. The parties shall submit post hearing comments within ten (10) days of the completion of the transcript.
 - d. The parties shall arrange for and share the cost of a court reporter for the hearing. The cost of the court reporter will be divided three ways as discussed during the conference.
- 3. The Motion to Dismiss previously filed by intervenors is deemed moot based upon Sprint's amendment to its application filed July 19, 2004.
- 4. All parties have agreed to service between them via electronic mail with copies to follow via first-class mail. All filings with the Commission must be made in accordance with Commission rules of procedure.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the proceedings regarding the above-captioned matter shall be conducted in conformity with the foregoing paragraphs of this Prehearing Conference Order.

 $\,$ MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 23rd day of August 2004.

By: _____

Frank E. Landis Hearing Officer